

DEJA VOODOO

NUMBER 6
WINTER 86

TRAIN

the official deja voodoo newsletter

VOODOO CROSS CANADA (AGAIN)



Montreal's Deja Voodoo head off on another cross-Canada tour in February. Their sixth tour is their most ambitious yet, with up to 29 shows scheduled in up to 19 cities from coast to coast.

The tour kicks off with a February 1 benefit concert for CINQ-FM community radio in Montreal, then continues with dates in Winnipeg (Feb. 7), Saskatoon (8), Vancouver (11, 12, 15 and possibly 13), Victoria (14), Calgary (19), Lethbridge (20), Edmonton (21), Regina (22 and perhaps 23), Winnipeg (24, 25), Ottawa / Hull (27), and back to Montreal (Mar. 1).

Following a few days off at home, the gruesome twosome play Montreal's Club Soda March 6, then

head east to Fredericton (7), Halifax (8), Sackville (tentative, 9), Quebec (tentative, 10), back to Guelph (14) and a series of not-yet-confirmed southern Ontario gigs before a showcase in Toronto at Larry's Hideaway March 29 with Ray Condo, the Gruesomes, UIC, and Chris Houston.

Aside from the Toronto show, Chris Houston will be supporting Deja Voodoo at shows in Vancouver, Regina, Winnipeg, Hull, and Montreal. Vancouver's Slow will be on the bill in Calgary and Edmonton.

Deja Voodoo will once again be travelling by bus, and expect to have completed 65,000 miles of touring upon their return to Montreal.



INSIDE:



LAWRENCE JOSEPH
Stares down Grim Reaper
PLUS!

four poster!
Interviews!
keen clippings!
stuff!
things!

It Came from Canada:

Compilation catches on fast

Og Music's *It Came From Canada* compilation sold out its first pressing of 1,000 six days after its November 21 release, catching the label by surprise.

The heavy demand for the record left Og moguls without enough copies for promotion, bands, or their parents. A second pressing of 500 is taking care of that.

The recent heavy demand for cool stuff has also meant repressings for Jerry Jerry and the Sons of Rhythm's *Road Gore* LP and Deja Voodoo's *Cemetery* and *Too Cool to Live*.

Og is now planning an April release for *It Came From Canada, Volume Two*, described by Ogsters as "wilder and weirder, we hope."

Wild and weird bands and individuals are invited to send demo tapes and band info to Og Music, Box 182, Station F, Montreal, H3J 2L1.

Bands who sound like carbon copies of other rockabilly/dance music / hardcore / meaningful reggae-tinged political pop bands are not welcome. You know who you are.

Deja Voodoo Barbecue does real good

Six hundred hipsters braved Montreal's first snowstorm of winter November 22 to dance, drink, and chow down free burgers at the first-ever Deja Voodoo Barbecue.

Smokin' sets by the Gruesomes, Ray Condo & his Hardrock Goners, Terminal Sunglasses, Chris Houston and the Voodoo guys themselves helped kick off the *It Came From Canada* compilation album, released just the day before.

The bingo-hall acoustics of the Paroisse St-Denis church basement turned each of the evening's two 2 1/2-hour shows into a garage sludgifest, to the delight of cave stompers and the dismay of sonic purists.

The stompers won the day, twisting on table tops and invading the stage to writhe, lizard, and bop.

Barbecue organizers Deja Voodoo were pleased with the

show, though disappointed by the skimpy turnout for the early-evening no-alcohol show.

The band finished the evening divided on plans for a second barbecue: singer-guitarist Gerard Van Herk advocated dropping the all-ages set, getting more bands, spicier food, and warmer weather, while drummer Tony Dewald planned to go home and sleep for a month.

STUFF & THINGS

by Gerard Van Herk

Hi there. Why is Deja Voodoo touring in the middle of winter you ask? So do we. It seemed like a good idea. We figured people can use a break by then, and most bands are too wimpy to head out in February. Also, this way we won't sweat so much on stage.

Things are well in the world of Voodoo. We've got a new sort of Og World Headquarters with a big scary basement we can use for jamming and recording, so we've been working on a whole bunch of new songs which we'll be trying out on audiences over the next few months. If all goes well, we'll do an album of all-new stuff in the summer.

The video for "House of Dr. Stimuli" turned out okay, and is popping up from time to time on MuchMusic. It also ended up, somehow, on Ted Turner's Cable News Network in the US, during a special on superstitions. We don't know how, either.

Lots of folks have been asking if we plan to release a version of "Raised by Wolves," the howly sort of thing we play at the end of some shows when we want the audience to shut up and go home. Thing is, we try to do it a little different each time and we're afraid if we release a studio version folks'll think This Is The Way The Song Goes. You know, the type of people who've memorized Tony's comments in "I Better Think" and "Cheese & Crackers." So what we might do is release a live version sometime. We've also got "Raised by Cats" ("We sure learned how to meow") and "Raised by Bugs" ("every day Mom would come home and secrete a sticky substance from under her wings, 'cause that's how bugs feed their young").

The film, *Sludgeabilly Monsters From Outer Space* got finished, but neither Dan the filmmaker nor we guys are happy with it the way it is, and we guys are too lazy and fed-up to remake it, so Dan the filmmaker is working on editing it down into a two-or-three minute trailer ("The Greatest Story Never Told").

It's really true that Terminal Sunglasses are broken up. I think the *It Came From Canada* LP came with its own curse: Terminal Sunglasses, My Dog Popper, the Dusty Chaps, and the Sons of Rhythm are broken up. Jerry Jerry's supposed to be putting together a new band, though.

On the positive side of *It Came*, Chris Houston and UIC are both working on albums, the Enigmas are re-releasing their *Teenage Barnacle* EP, and Ray Condo and the Gruesomes are both working on EPs.

We're trying to get a bunch of the *It Came* bands together for shows Easter weekend, so if you live in Kingston, Toronto, or Ottawa, keep your eyes peeled for posters.

Condition's LP is on Psyche-Industry, as are that other compilation album *It Came From the Pit* (good HC cross-section, though short on variety) and the Nils EP *Sell Out Young*.

Fans of cool old stuff (especially 60s psych cool old stuff) are doing all right in Montreal right now... aside from live bands like the Gruesomes and Merrick Trout Pact, we've got recorded-music-at-clubs (Tuesdays at the otherwise-not-too-cool Beat, we played there once and the doorman wouldn't let us in to do our set, and occasional evenings at the Rising Sun and Foulfoules Electric), fanzines (the new and really good *Lost Mynds*, upcoming French-language *Comme un Bumerang*), and record stores

what you've done in your own neighbourhood, and leave an address and phone number. We're serious about no carbon copy bands, too (well, maybe if you're a carbon copy of The Phantom...). Oh yeah, and also no tapes from rich suburban guys who sit down in their basements with 4-track tape machines and record self-indulgent crap.

Everybody's pals The Cramps have a new LP called *A DATE With Elvis* out any day now. They've rid themselves of guitarist Ike and are supposed to be touring England with a BASS PLAYER. Sellout! Ripoff! The album is *not* on Og. Another LP not on Og is due soon from popular iconoclasts and noted Deja Voodoo ripoff band (listen to "Black Girls" — not the words) the Violent Femmes.

Folks to Keep an Eye Out For, in no particular order: the Campfire Boys, Undertakin' Daddies, Dundrells (great live), Maggot Fodder, Sci-Phonies, Dead Cats, Jack Deathray, E.J. Brulé, Depo Provera, Electric Bananas, Prehistoric Cavestokers, the Syndicate, Slow, the Tomb Looters... these are all real bands. I have not made them up.



IAN

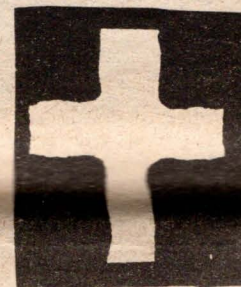
Another good chance to see lots of bands in one place hits Montreal March 6-9 at Club Soda, with most of the city's better-known bands from across the "alternative" spectrum putting in sets. Bands include Ray Condo, Gruesomes, Nils, Deja Voodoo, Seven Sisters, and a whole lot of bands from the VOT label, which makes sense since they're the folks putting the shows together. Admission four bucks.

The Condition LP *Mumbo Jumbo* is out and it's good. Don't let the slick cover put you off. Condition also played live for New Year's over Brave New Waves. I went down to the studio and ate all the food. Come to think of it, when we were on the show I ate all the food, too.

(Rebop at 3847 St-Denis is psychster hep-quarters, but lotsa cool stuff at Cheap Thrills on Metcalfe, and just recently at Dutchy's).

Slight change in the local club scene — both the Steppe and Station Ten are now being booked by their owners, which means real good stuff one night and geeky U2 clone bands the next. On the positive side, lotsa touring bands at reasonable prices at Foulfoules and the Rising Sun.

Let's see, what else... we're serious about wanting bands to send us tapes for *It Came From Canada, Volume 2*. We already have a little over half the LP worked out, but we want more cool stuff. So get busy. Send us a cassette, tell us



Docs to Joseph: Stop boppin' or DIE!

Terminal Sunglasses guitarist Lawrence Joseph has been told by his doctors to give up his musician's lifestyle or risk serious illness or death.

Following a bout of bad health in December, Joseph was told to keep out of nightclubs full of smoke or cat fur.

The Terminal Sunglasses will be breaking up, with singer Chris Burns, bassist Foster Grant and drummer George a. expected to wind up in other bands.

Terminal Sunglasses formed in 1982. In 1985 they released an LP called *Wrap Around Cool* on the Og label, and have had songs on the Og compilations *From Montreal...* and *It Came From Canada*.

The Sunglasses last show was November 22, at the Deja Voodoo Barbecue in Montreal. Long-time Sunglasses-watchers described it as one of their best shows ever, with the Montreal Gazette calling their set, "the high point of the evening."

ARCMTL

Deja Voodoo Train is published four times a year by Og Music, Box 182, Station F, Montreal, Quebec H3J 2L1, Canada. Excerpts may be reprinted without further permission as long as the source is credited. Subscriptions are free! Write to Og.

Voodoo barbecue sizzles with rock magic

VOX,
CALGARY

By MICHAEL MIROLLO
of The Gazette

Hey, what do you do on a Grey Cup weekend when you wanna do something that has absolutely nothing to do with the Grey Cup?

Why, first, you rent out a church basement; then you throw a party-cum-barbecue and offer the first 200 arrivals free hamburgers.

Toss in five of Montreal's better alternative music bands, charge all of three bucks at the door, make available buckets of cheap beer — and what have you?

Just about the second-best way to swing on a Friday night (and if you don't know the best way by now, my explaining it to you won't help).

The venue was the Paroisse St. Denis Church on Laurier Blvd. E. and the occasion was Deja Voodoo's first annual barbecue.

Judging from the folks who leaped on to any available table to dance and scream out the lyrics, the Voodoo gang has just created an instant tradition, the kind of spontaneous blast that no amount of calculation can produce.

Not that the show fell apart around the edges. In fact, to the amazement of most observers — or at least those with enough working brain cells left to still decipher the time — the evening went like clockwork.

The five bands — starting with the Gruesomes through Chris Houston, Terminal Sunglasses, Deja Voodoo and topped off by Ray Condo and his Hard Rock Goners — kept things moving at a fast if not furious pace, allowing the 500 or so celebrants in attendance only enough time to replace what they'd burned away.

If there was a high point to the evening, it came with the Terminal Sunglasses who seem to drag their own audience with them. This is a

REVIEW

Deja Voodoo Barbecue at Paroisse St. Denis Church, Friday night; Chris Elliott at Comedy Nest, Thursday to Sunday night.

band that plays so loudly the air starts to shimmer and even hand signals have trouble making themselves understood.

But who cares when they offer prizes for fan participation and have several dozen loonies rush the stage so they can lie on their backs and kick their feet in the air.

P.S.: Anyone interested in throw-

ing a Voodoo-style party at home should know that Og Music's *It Came From Canada* LP, which includes the five bands above plus six more from across this great land, is now available. Get it while you can.

If there was a change in 1985, it was in the city's rising level of independent recording activity. A casual glance through Montreal record stores reveals more or less recent vinyl by *Deja Voodoo*, *Condition*, *The DiMaggios*, *The Nils*, *Fair Warning*, *Seven Sisters*, and *The Darned*, as well as compilations by the fine local *Og* and *Psyche Industry* labels.

GAZETTE, MONTREAL

DEJA VOODOO
Too Cool To Live
Too Smart To Die
(Midnight)

Varsinainen vappupaukku: Deja Voodooa olen jo pari kuukautta jatkuvalla syötöllä kuunnellut, enkä vielä ole herjennyt nauramasta tahi rytmijalkaa poikemasta. Ajatelkaa nyt: tämä kanadalainen combo koostuu herroista Tony Dewald (rumpu) ja Gerard van Herk (laulu, kitara)... eikä muita! Kova jytke, hurjat kitarat ja mies laulaa bluesia, punkkia, billya, glitteriä... you name it. Koko paketti alkaa välillä kovastikin ihmettyä, mutta oivallisilla biisivalinnoilla, kovalla pokerilla ja hillittömällä energialla Deja Voodoo pitää kuulijan koukussa. Minun suosikit: *Gotta Have Money* ja *Bo Diddle's Cat*.

It Came From Canada Various Artists

OG 8

This collection of 12 Canadian bands offers an impressive cross-section of the national alternative scene. If it demonstrates anything, it's that Canadian bands have a much better sense of humor than their British and American counterparts. (Well, side one anyway: the Dr. Demento-like novelty excesses of Terminal Sunglasses and Calamity Janes just about kill it.)

But about that side one: there are a couple of good songs from Jerry Jerry and The Sons Of Rhythm, excellent traditional hillbilly boogie from Ray Condo and His Hardrock Goners, great sludgeability from Montreal's Deja Voodoo and, the highlight of the record, the grim, rollicking dance macabre of Chris Huston's *Surfin' On Heroin*.

GRAFFITI, CANADA

TEN TOP CANADIAN ALTERNATIVE BANDS

1. *Deja Voodoo*
2. *SNFU*
3. *Golden Calgarians*
4. *Terminal Sunglasses*
5. *Skinny Puppy*
6. *Asexuals*
7. *Jerry Jerry and the Sons of Rhythm Orchestra*
8. *Enigmas*
9. *Whitenoise*
10. *Porcelain Forehead*

H.D. & A.S.

DEJA VOODOO: Too Cool to Live, Too Smart to Die. Wow. Talk about cool trash! Talk about minimalism! Deja Voodoo have stripped roots rock down to a bare skeleton, then thrown away the bones nobody needed anyway. Voice, fuzzed out guitar with the two high strings missing, a drum kit that sounds like maybe a tom, a snare and a kick drum. The eight songs make reference to heroes the likes of Bo Diddle, Duane Eddy, Carl Perkins, Sam the Sham, et al. Makes the Cramps sound overproduced. Dig it, daddi-o. (Midnight, Box 390, Old Chelsea Sta., NYC 10011) — Beth L.

OPTIONS,
USA

MIRROR, MONTREAL

IT CAME FROM CANADA! VARIOUS!

A step forward for the independent record industry in Canada, this 14 song album from OG Music in Montreal proves that accessible underground rock 'n' roll is alive and doing very well in this country. The record has a definite Montreal bias, with seven out of 14 tracks going to local celebs like the Terminal Sunglasses, Ray Condo and his Hardrock Goners, My Dog Popper, and the Og executives themselves, Deja Voodoo.

Vancouver's Enigmas have a good thrasher called *Bad Meat*, Chris Houston does a new version of the fun *Surfin' on Heroin* (with the classic line, "I'm so stoned I can't remember my name."), and Jerry Jerry have two catchy numbers (though the lyrics to *Bad Idea* are still as dumb as when I read them in Tommy Schnurmacher's column a while back). Biggest disappointments are Voodoo's two songs which suffer from excessively muddy production, and the exceedingly long and boring My Dog Popper song, *Acid Flashback*.

Overall, a well put together package — chalk one up for Canadian nationalism.

Brandon Kelly

•Voodoo Barbecue: Terrible acoustics; appropriate for garage music however. Gerard and Tony generously spent most of a day cooking the free burgers. While they welded the mustard and pickles, Mike and Pierre rounded up some teenyboppers to record a Much Music station I.D. backstage. Sunglasses dug up some numbers for their metal "SledgeHead" incarnation, as over enthusiastic fans snake-pitted on stage, almost demolishing Jerry the Giraffe. Antlers were flying. Show a little respect! the sludgeopathic duo play the Rising Sun, sans hamburgers, Dec. 28.

O.G. MUSIC, PO BOX 12,
STATION F, MONTREAL
QUEBEC, H3J 2L1
CANADA

WHOLE
LATER
SHAKIN'
DEJA
VOODOO??

"CONSACRÉS" AU NIVEAU INTERNATIONAL DEPUIS LA PARUTION DE "TOO COOL TO LIVE", LEUR MINI-LP SUR MIDNIGHT, CES DEUX CRYPTIK-FOLKS ONT DÉJÀ (JUSTEMENT...) À LEUR ACTIF UN SINGLE INTROUVABLE, UNE CASSETTE AUTO-PRODUITE ("GUMBO") ET UN SUPERBE PREMIER ALBUM "CEMETARY", SUR LEUR LABEL OG MUSIC. LA MUSIQUE? ET BIEN DISENS QU'ON A VU LEUR COLLER UNE ÉTIQUETTE VODOO-BILLY STYLE CRAMPS. EUX QU'AGISSENT AVEC HUMOUR LEUR MUSIQUE DE SLUDGEABILITY... BON, DISENS QUE LA VOIX DU CHANTEUR RAPPELLE UN PEU CEUX DE LUX DANS SES INTONATIONS LES PLUS GRAVES ("HUMAN FLY", "VOODOO DOL"...). LA GUITARE EST SOUVENT TRAITÉE DE FAÇON ASSEZ CRUE, À PEINE AMPLIFIÉE, AVEC UN PEU DE REVERB, ENTRE LE SON ROCKABILLY ET LA SATURATION DES GUITARES MINIMALES DU "PINK FLAG" DE WIRE, DONT JUSTEMENT, ILS REPRENNENT LE FABULEUX "STRANGE". LE GÔTE MINIMAL EST ACCENTUÉ PAR LA STRUCTURE MÊME DE LA FORMATION GUITARE/DRUM KIT. LAISSER TRAINER UNE CRETILLE ET C'EST TOUT LE RESTE QUI VIBRERA...

BO DIDDLEY'S
CAT

© D.V.

LET ME TELL YOU PEOPLE WHERE IT'S AT
TALKIN' 'BOUT BO DIDDLEY'S CAT,
NOT TOO FAST AND NOT TOO SLOW
SEE THAT CAT EVERYWHERE I GO.
BO BO BO BO BO BO DIDDLEY'S CAT
BO DIDDLEY'S CAT DONE GOT LOOSE
WENT UPTOWN IN BIDE SUEDE SHOES
ONE LEG UP AND ANOTHER LEG DOWN
SEE THAT CAT ALL OVER TOWN.
BO BO BO BO BO BO DIDDLEY'S CAT.
BO DIDDLEY'S CAT GOT BO DIDDLEY EYES.
BO DIDDLEY'S CAT 'BOUT HALF MY SIZE.
BO DIDDLEY'S CAT GOT BO DIDDLEY FEET.
HOP AND A-BOP TO THE BO DIDDLEY BERT.
BO BO BO BO BO BO DIDDLEY'S CAT.

ROCKET,
SEATTLE

DETAILED

WINTER 86 TOUR

FEB

7 WINNIPEG university of manitoba

8 SASKATOON indian / inuit ctr

11 VANCOUVER railway

12 VANCOUVER savoy

14 VICTORIA oap hall

15 VANCOUVER arts club

19 CALGARY club notes



20 LETHBRIDGE university
21 EDMONTON sacred heart
22 REGINA beat club
24 WINNIPEG wellington's
25 WINNIPEG wellington's
27 OTTAWA / HULL zinc
28 MONTREAL fourfoules

MAR

6 MONTREAL club soda
7 FREDERICTON unb
8 HALIFAX nscad
14 GUELPH guelph u.
15 LONDON call the office
29 TORONTO larry's
30 OTTAWA / HULL tba



DETA VOODOO

YUP, yup, yup, yup, this is probably one of the coolest interviews with Gerard Van Herk, the taller half of Voodoo, that you will ever see (Tony DeWald is on this month's THROB-ing cover). Craig Hart, former promo-guy, presently in Canada's Yukon (vs. Poland's Yukon), and T.C. Collier (our own Jennifer Marlow), grabbed Gerard after a show in Fredericton N.B.

THROB: How do you find dealing with Midnight Records ?

GERARD: It's a bit strange cause they're used to doing things their way and we're used to doing things our way. There's a clash cause they're used to selling records to European collectors who don't care about paying lots of money, but we're used to selling records to people who have no money at all. But it'll work out. Our new album is being pressed in France on good vinyl using metal mastering which reduces the processing steps giving it a live-er sound.

THROB: Are you Og Music ?

GERARD: Technically it's Tony the drummer, but I do most of the answering of letters and stuff like that because Tony can't write. When he was a kid there was something wrong with his hands and he couldn't hold a pencil properly. That's why his autographs are so messy and he holds his drumsticks with his fists. He's got no tensor muscles.

THROB: Let's talk car talk.

GERARD: Sure, great.

THROB: What would you drive besides an Edsel ?

GERARD: Fairlane — it was cooler than any other cars. They said "Fuck all this stuff, we're going to stay cool forever", and they almost made it. The perfect car for us would be a 1959 Cadillac. It's got HUGE tailfins. The stupidest car ever built. And I've never seen anybody but a pimp drive one. It's just a really cool car. I'd put diddlybobber balls on the inside and a racoon tail on the antenna and go wild and scare the hell outta anyone in Northern Ontario.

THROB: What would we find on your turntable platter right now ?

GERARD: Lot's of R&B, blues and rockin' blues stuff from 1948-54. Sister Rosetta Thorpe who does evil gospel stuff...uh...Screamin Jay Hawkins...Richard Berry, Etta James. And the Collins Kids, some really wild rockabilly. Larry is nine and Laurie is thirteen. This kid plays a double neck guitar and just goes wild, he's playing this wild fuckin' stuff and he's nine years old. He's got a little crewcut, he's a little jerk, he really looks like a little jerk and all the songs are Laurie complaining about what a jerk her brother is. She's got a wonderful Wanda Jackson type of voice.

THROB: Have you heard Rockabilly Psychosis and the Garage Disease ?

GERARD: Yup, yup, yup, had a lot of the stuff on 45's and stuff. The Phantom, one of the greatest trash singles ever. It's great, this guy goes crazy for a minute and thirty seconds and the other side is this ballad called "Whisper Your Love", which is like a sappy country ballad that just goes on and on and on for four minutes. The guy is psychotic.

THROB: We've covered trash 45's, trash cars...any other trash lifestyles.

GERARD: Trash Food: I don't like it. People assume we eat hamburgers because we drive an Edsel. We like to eat. We drive across Canada looking for cool restaurants. Winnipeg has excellent restaurants.

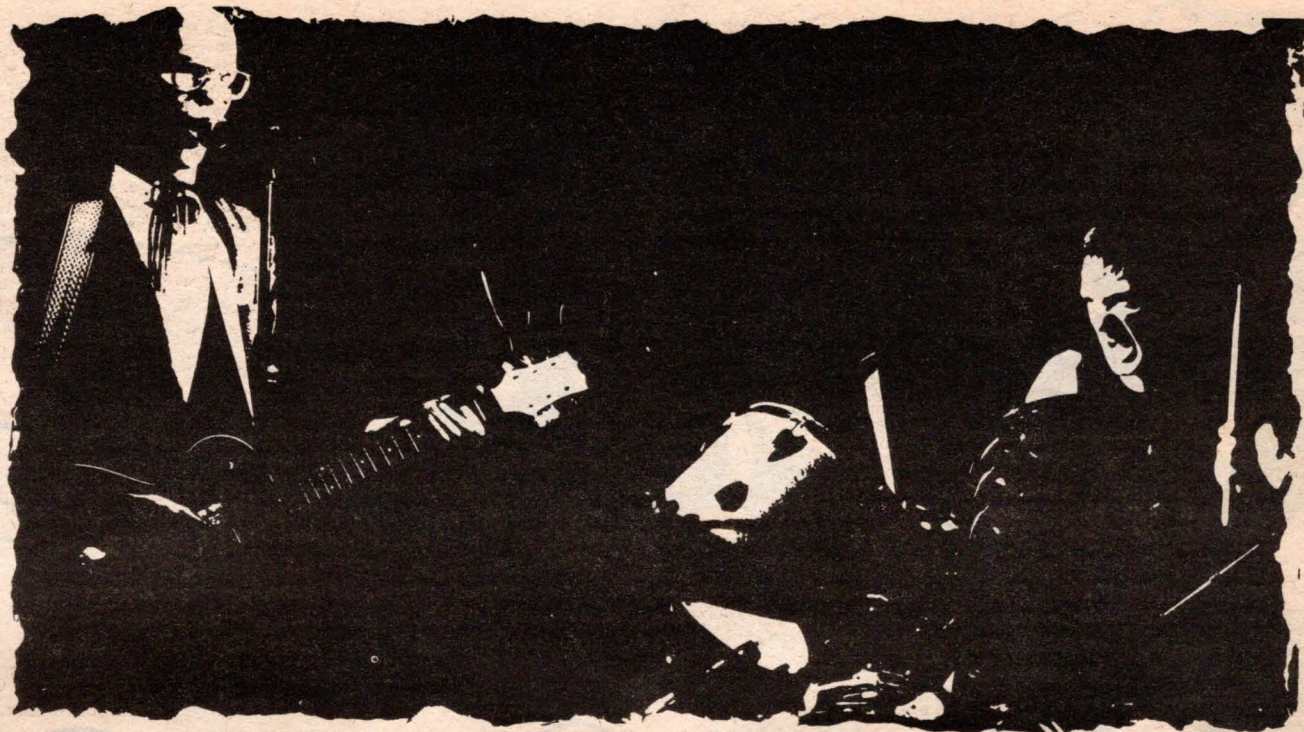
THROB: What about literature? Do you read the National Enquirer or something?

GERARD: I read the Weekly World News which is a lot more cooler. The National Enquirer is about famous people and the hell with them, I want to read about people who have two headed babies.

THROB: Like I was raped by a martian

GERARD: Or I had a space alien's baby.

This woman in Yugoslavia has a space alien's baby but nobody notices it because it looks like a Yugoslavian.



We just finished a movie called "Sludgability Monsters from Outer Space." It's being edited right now. It's about this far away planet in the fifties that pictures earth based on hearing Elvis and the Phantom on the radio and stuff. So they build us in that image, as earthlings, and send us to earth. We get there in 1985 and our mission is to find Elvis. We do stuff, play music, find out he's dead and then it ends.

THROB: When will it be released?

GERARD: You won't be able to see it anywhere normal...ever. Hopefully it will be in a couple of cool video stores.

THROB: What would be some great trash TV shows?

GERARD: I like Batman or episodes of TV shows where rock n roll breaks out against the TV show's will. Like the episode of Batman with Paul Revere and the Raiders in it. When Penguin runs for mayor they do a song called "Pengy He's So Cool". Or the time The Standells were on The Munsters. The classic RnR on TV. Herman says to the Standells that if the future of America is in the hands of fine young men like the Standells then he has nothing to worry about.

THROB: Do you watch The Flintstones?

GERARD: Oh ya. We are working on a cover of Bedrock Twist. Ya, Rock Roll is his name. Wilma convinces Fred to come and sing at their social cause Rock Roll eats Pickled DoDo eggs and they make him lose his voice. So Fred has to pretend to be Rock Roll and he gets on stage and sings, "there's a swingin town where the hipsters go called Bedrock - Twitch, Twitch!"

THROB: Some really good music came out of that show.

GERARD: Oh ya, they used real people. Dwayne Eddy played guitar on some of these cuts, James Burton too.

THROB: What about wrestling?

GERARD: Tony watches it more than I do. It's too mamby pamby right now with all these rock stars...they've ruined it. It's like when you've got a cool restaurant in town that serves good chili. You go there for years, good food, it's fun and you're having a good time. Then it gets written up in the newspaper and the next week you go down there and there's eighty-five people from the suburbs saying, "Oh isn't this great" and you never wanna go there again because it's so full of jerks. It's the same with wrestling.

THROB: Would you go to roller derby matches?

GERARD: I don't know. In Montreal heavy metal people go to roller derby. But Ontario is cool cause you've got twenty-four hour bowling. Nowhere in Montreal, but we have what's called "Clair de Lune." It's where you bowl after midnight and instead of paying per ten frames you just get the alley and bowl as much as you can.

What you do is a lot of speed. You go down to the alley, you get drunk, there's a brasserie next to the alley. Then you go into the alley at 1 a.m. and rent the biggest bowling shoes you've ever seen in your life and you just bowl side arm for two hours straight. Just whip them down the lanes and the pins can't keep up cause they're automatic pins. And then you start knocking pins into other peoples alleys and there's all these old hench people in polyester saying "mon petite abette" over and over again cause you're wearing black clothes so they think you must be gay. It's alot of fun.

THROB: We have red pins after midnight.

GERARD: Ya, ya, ya, ya, and we have "The Wheel of Fortune." If you get a strike and the red pin is in the number one position you go over and spin the wheel. But there's maybe a hundred things to win, two of them are for free games, one is for a fancy car, and the other ninety-seven are for a free bag of chips! The guy stands there with his knee on the wheel... "oh...un sac de chips!!!"

THROB: Any goals - long or short?

GERARD: Ya, I wanna see Gaetan Boucher off the air. I think he's a jerk. It's not his fault, there are people behind him writing this material and making him say these stupid things, he should not be on the air.

THROB: Is this a life inspiring goal?

GERARD: No just this weeks thing, it just pissed me off. Oh and the commercials for beef really gets on my nerves. They have this heavy metal announcer who says: "TODAY'S LEAN BEEF ONE NIGHT ONLY AT THE COLISEUM."

THROB: It sounds like a tractor pull commercial.

GERARD: Oh ya, like Bigfoot. That's great. Why do people go and watch this? Who can watch more than one car

getting run over by a truck with big wheels. There are people sitting in their tractor cabs for hours at a time going "Ha, ha, he ran over another one."

That's the kinda stuff that's good about Ontario. You probably have more stupid people per square inch, especially the farther north you go.

THROB: Do you tour Northern Ontario.

GERARD: We go the route where you don't go through Wawa. We go through Gerelton, Smooth Rock, Beardrove, on the way to the prairies. Places where they are still waiting for the second Rolling Stones album to come out. They hear it's going to be great.

THROB: What are some bands you've played with?

GERARD: The Violent Femmes and The Cramps. The Cramps are sort of jerks in person.

THROB: Is Poison Ivy really that sedate?

GERARD: She's...very...old. They're all...very...old. We thought she was a bag lady when she walked into the club, we didn't recognize her at first. We thought she was a bag lady who was wondering why this door was left unlocked. Then the rest of the band came in and we said "Oh it's them."

I'd like to open for groups who don't tour anymore, like the Phantom, if he ever gets back on the road again. The problem is he was paralyzed from the neck down in a car crash. He has two fingers on each hand that work and he still plays guitar. He lives in this room with no windows with spray painted blacklight names of women he has slept with in the past.

He writes these wierd letters to people in the rock industry trying to get back on top again. Pat Boone is the guy who discovered him and he keeps telling people he is a good friend. And he also says that he was the first rock group to play in Communist China.

THROB: When did you open for the Femmes?

GERARD: Three times now, twice in Ottawa. They pulled in to Ottawa asking where they could find vegetarian suchi. Fuck Off! And it had to be Korean-Vegetarian suchi too, none of this Japanese shit!

We played two nights for them there, and I nearly killed myself the first night. There were all these old people in the first couple of rows because they thought the Femmes were a folk band. They were the club owner's wife's family. For the encore I was doing "Raised by Wolves". I tried playing the guitar solo with a beer bottle but I couldn't reach it. So I grabbed this guy's scotch off his table, drank it, and started playing with the glass. The glass broke and I started cutting up my hand. I was bleeding all over the guitar and the first few rows of the audience. So all these people in their fifties had blood all over them, they were freakin' right out. I made it off stage eventually and I was lying there collapsed in the bathroom with paper towels wrapped around my hand and the guy whose drink I had stolen came in and said: "I enjoyed your show very much, can I buy you a drink."

THROB,
HAMILTON, ONT.

ARCMTL

Catching The Déja Voodoo Train

If any band in Canada has proved that localized "alternative" music needn't go unrecognized on a national scale, it's Montreal "sludgebilly" duo Déja Voodoo.

Guitarist Gerard Van Herk and drummer Tony Dewald have already created nationwide interest in their own music through relentless touring (50,000 miles cross-country, to date), the publication of their own newsletter (*Déja Voodoo Train*), and the release of two albums and an EP on their own label, Og Records.

But they've also released albums, EPs, compilation records, and cassettes by local "underground" bands like Terminal Sunglasses, Asexuals, Condition, and American Devices. Through several "alternative" distributors such as Toronto's Record Peddler, Og can expose these groups from Halifax to Vancouver.

"We're not really an outlet for

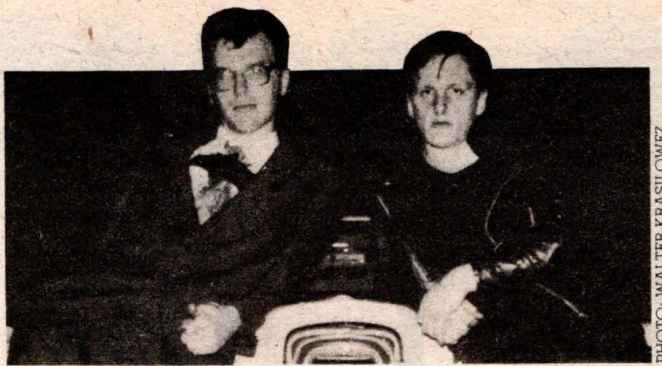
the Montreal underground," says Van Herk. "We just put out stuff we like."

"And nothing we've put out has profited us any, except for our own records," adds Dewald.

"If we put the record out ourselves, then we pay the band's royalties," says Van Herk. "They get about a dollar an album. If they put out the album themselves (like Terminal Sunglasses did), we buy the records from the band and then sell them. With the Sunglasses, we paid \$3.75 per record and sold them for \$4.05 each (to retailers). We're not getting rich!"

"In cases like that, they put it out at cost, and tell us how much they need to make it back. But if we put it out instead of them, it costs us less because we put out more records and we know how to do it better than them."

Then there's the problem of touring to sell the record in other markets across Canada. For Déja



Gerard Van Herk and Tony Dewald

Voodoo, with two guitars and some drums, travelling by car or bus is a feasible proposition. With a full band, it gets more difficult.

"But with other bands we put out," says Dewald, "we have yet to see anybody that's willing to bust their ass to get the recognition, which is the only way to do it for a small band. And we still get complaints from bands that they didn't see their record in a store in Quebec City, or whatever."

"It's down to the interest of a local audience in these places," adds Van Herk. "You have to go

and play there." But he's reluctant to book his labelmates, because "It always gets messed up, and you always end up taking the flak for it."

On the Og agenda for this fall, to add to the three LPs, three EPs, two cassettes, and other merchandise already available: An album by Edmonton gospel-country-punk band Jerry Jerry & the Sons of Rhythm Orchestra, a single by Montreal rockabilly Ray Condo and his Hardrock Goners, and another Montreal compilation record.

PHOTO: WALTER KRASILOWEZ

DEJA VOODOO - "Cemetery" - lp-Og Records.

A strange name for a strange band. This Canadian duo is composed by Tony Dewald, drummer and Gerard Van Herk, guitarist and singer. "Cemetery" is their first album. The cover reports a long list of musicians who

influenced the group; among others: Link Wray, Bo Diddley, Velvet Underground, Cramps, Gene Vincent or ever Elvis Presley and The Beach Boys. Considering all these influences you may be prepared to listen to a classical rock'n'roll without fantasy or originality. "Cemetery" is instead a very good record, where you may find an unusual, meagre, minimal and very simplified rock'n'roll. Their childish and very spontaneous sound remembers Suicide at their beginning.

FG

CANADIAN MUSICIAN,
TORONTO

by John Bonnar of CFRU

As mentioned a few issues back. O.G. records out of Montreal have released their effort toward the Canadian identity crisis, and let's not forget the Xmas rush. *It Came From Canada* is a compilation of bands from across this land, and is Canada-forever cool.(!)

If I could describe "cool" to you, it wouldn't be cool. So you'll have to take my word for it - these are eleven cool bands. They're not all famous. They don't all play the same style of music... some of them probably don't like each other. What these bands all have in common is the ability to take a style of music, whether it's punk, country, blues, western, psychedelia, garagerock, whatever, and warp that style until it becomes their own. Sounds cool to me.

Jerry Jerry and the Sons of Rhythm Orchestra, from Edmonton mutate blues, gospel, country and rockabilly into a bourbon soaked blend of rock'n'roll. "(You've lost that) Radical Look" and "Bad Idea" are intoxicated with the idea of thinking for yourself.

Ray Condo and his Hardrock Goners from Montreal play a high voltage mix of 40s/50s country and rockabilly whipping third rate big-hair pretenders off the Bop map on the basis of authenticity and general goneness with their version of "the Rock Island Line."

The Dusty Chaps from Edmonton are drum-free western singers, sounding a bit like if Lorne Greene took MDA and sang about his dog in "Yukon Buddy."

Chris Houston, former Forgotten

Rebel from Toronto draws his sound from a swampful of blues, rock, jazz & Elvis. "Surfin on Heroin" redone, more fun.

Déja Voodoo from Montreal steal bits of blues, country-rockabilly and 60s punk, grind them to a pulp and turn them into sludgebilly. "Lonely Motel" and "House of Dr. Stimuli" offer a view of our private wants.

The Enigmas from Vancouver, U.I.C. from Toronto, **Calamity Janes** from Ottawa, **My Dog Popper** and the **Gruesomes** from Montreal round out or fill in this collection.

Some tracks suffer because of their production; each band taking care of their own - but as a whole effort *It Came From Canada* on O.G. records offers a great cross-section of sounds. Look for it in your local cool record shop - the one you don't ever go to.

SKELETAL
WORK,
ITALY

During his hour long sound check Nick had smack on his mind and not in his mind and his **Bad Seeds** a good deal more ability and musical awareness. He sang "Knockin' on Heaven's Door" and "Black Betty" and of particular note was guitarist **Blixa Bargeld**. So much was expected as **Déja Voodoo** warmed up the audience and left them with one of their best performances. **Gerard** introduced Nick Cave and said he was tired of opening for fat junkies and was glad to be opening for someone so thin.

ONTARIO,
GUELPH,
ONT.

Anyone who reads *What Wave* regularly knows that one of our all time fave bands is Déja Voodoo, Canada's busiest underground group. Voodoo has just completed another tour across Canada, and is spending their free time planning yet another tour for early 1986. This tour will hopefully include some U.S. dates, as well as visits to their favourite Canadian cities, so keep your eyes open. There is also some talk of European dates! Sludgebilly fever knows no bounds! Soon these gurus of sublime obscurity will be beaming their message into the homes of millions of unsuspecting citizens, through the kindness of Mush Music. At long last Déja Voodoo's first video 'House of Dr. Stimuli' has been completed, it's entire \$250 budget spent on High Tech props and Special Effects. (Canada's cardboard industry went through a boom period recently.) Also completed is the super-8 film 'Sludgebilly Monsters from Outer Space' which should be appearing at movie theatres near you! (But isn't it) And on a sadder note, the sludgemobile, the band's 1959 Edsel was sold for scrap on Sunday July 21, on Wednesday a new universal joint was found. The Gods must be crazy!

WHAT WAVE,
LONDON, ONT.

Déja Voodoo, as well as being Canada's hepest band, is also the owner of Canada's grooviest record label OG. OG's newest release is 'It Came From Canada', a compilation of 14 songs by wyld Canadian bands, ranging from psychedelic to blues. Of course, at the top of the list are Voodoo themselves with 'Lonely Motel' and 'The House of Dr. Stimuli', U.I.C. (another of our faves) with '2+2=?', Terminal Sunglasses with 'Antenna Dilemma' and 'Don't be Doing It in Front of the Penguins', Ray Condo doing 'Rock Island Line', The Gruesomes and 'For all I Care', My Dog Popper with 'Acid Flashback', the Enigmas from Vancouver with 'Bad Meat' and many more! This record should be readily available in Canada, and in the U.S. can be obtained through Midnight. If you want to keep on top of this here band/label just order yourself a Déja Voodoo Train, their very own newsletter. At: OG Box 182, Station F, Montreal, Canada.

Watch out for *It Came From Canada, Volume Two!* Out this Spring! More bands! More songs!

BUY OG STUFF!

It Came From Canada, various artists: Cross-country compilation LP featuring 14 songs by Deja Voodoo, the Enigmas, Jerry Jerry & the Sons of Rhythm Orchestra, Terminal Sunglasses, Chris Houston, My Dog Popper, U.I.C., the Gruesomes, Ray Condo & his Hard Rock Goners, the Calamity Janes, and the Dusty Chaps. Scary colour monster comic cover, lots of cool country, psych, sludgeabilly, western, punk, rockabilly, blues, gospel, and garage stuff. OG8. \$9.

Road Gore: The Band That Drank Too Much, Jerry Jerry and the Sons of Rhythm Orchestra: Thirteen cool punk-gospel-country-rockabilly-blues songs by the hardest-drinking band in show business. OG7. \$9.

Too Cool to Live, Too Smart to Die, Deja Voodoo: Evillest record yet by Montreal's sludgeabilly kings. Eight songs, including "Cheese & Crackers" and "House of Dr. Stimuli." Released on Midnight Records worldwide, distributed in Canada by Og. MIR012. \$6.

Wrap Around Cool, Terminal Sunglasses: Fourteen-song avant-garage wigout LP featuring over 45 minutes of psych, including "Antenna Dilemma," "Psycho Rail," and "My Cat Got Run Over by a Bus." OG6. \$9.

Cemetery, Deja Voodoo: World's first-ever sludgeabilly LP. Voodoo guys tackle blues, country, rockabilly, garage, reduce them all to a pulp. Nineteen songs! OG4. \$9.

From Montreal, various artists: Seven-song EP featuring Condition, American Devices, Terminal Sunglasses, Deja Voodoo. Five cuts unavailable elsewhere or remixed. OG3. \$3.

Dirty Business, Condition: Seven urban-primitive swing songs on this 30-minute cassette. Combines 40s film soundtracks, jazz, no wave. OG2. \$5.

Gumbo, Deja Voodoo: Seventeen-song cassette. None of the same songs as on *Cemetery* or *Too Cool*. Garage fidelity. OG1. \$5.

PLUS! ALL THIS DEJA VOODOO STUFF!

Lapel pin, black on white. \$1.

Too Cool to Live t-shirt. Black on white. Specify S, M, L, XL. \$6.

Deja Voodoo great big t-shirt. White on Black. XL only. \$6.

Deja Voodoo Trains. One of each, \$1. Free with other purchase.

N° 5: Barbecue, *It Came From Canada*, Sludgemobile sold, video, tour, Montreal scene report, stuff, things, barbecue poster, clippings from *Throb*, *Nerve*, *Mirror*, and more. Fall 85.

N° 4: Tour, Jerry Jerry, movie, tour poster, stuff, things, clippings from *Spin*, *Gazette*, *Max RnR*, *Chronicle*, *Vancouver Sun*, *Graffiti*, *What Wave*, *Trans FM*, *Mirror*.

N° 3: *Too Cool*, Terminal Sunglasses, Film photo, *Too Cool* illustrated lyrics, stuff, things, clippings from Winnipeg *Free Press*, Montreal *Gazette*, *Rockerilla* (Italy).

N° 2: US contract, Sludgemobile dead, Jerry Jerry signed, Deja Voodoo go west board game, Get a Hat poster, clippings from *Discorder*, *Open City*, *Graffiti*, *What Wave*, Montreal *Gazette*, *Airtight*, stuff, things.

N° 1: Big live photo, tour, *Cemetery*, stuff, things, clippings from *Link*, *Max RnR*, *Trans FM*, *Sunday Express*, *OP*, *Concordian*, questions gas station attendants frequently ask about Deja Voodoo's car.

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